GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4120
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002
WORLD TRADE TREATY ON AGRO EXPORT
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed any National Policy to replace the present World Trade Treaty on Agro-Export; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Article 20 of the World Trade Organization`s Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), provides for commencement of negotiations as from 1 January 2000 to continue the reform process, initiated with the entry into force of the AoA on 1 January 1995, with the objective of establishing a fair and market- oriented agricultural trading system. The mandate for negotiations agreed by Ministers at the Doha Ministerial Conference in November 2001 providesfor substantial reduction in domestic support, reduction of, with a view to phasing out, export subsidies, and substantial improvements in market access. Special and differential treatment for developing countries shall be an integral part of all elements of the negotiations. The negotiations are scheduled to be concluded by 1 January, 2005.

India`s position and approach to the negotiations is formulated after consultations from time to time widely held with Governments of States/Union Territories, representatives of political parties, farmers associations, eminent agro-economists, research institutions and other stake holders in the agricultural sector.